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The *Evans & Reeves* Grapevine

Los Angeles, Calif.

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No. 6

Garden of All Ahs

If it had not won ribbon or trophy (which it did), the Evans and Reeves landscape project at the International Flower Show would have carried away one accolade bestowed by the onlookers: the place in which they would most like to relax.

And that was the aim of Landscape Architect Eric Armstrong who designed the beautiful, restful and intriguing lanai and garden in the Hollywood Park grandstand.

Structurally, it was three outdoor living areas so composed as to be individual or unified as mood might demand, enclosed by raised planting areas (which incidentally provided considerable auxiliary seating space) on one side, and by a series of skeletal partitions, the frames of which were fill-

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~~RECORD~~
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U.S. Department of Agriculture

SILVER GROWS ON TREES

Sterling Qualities

South Africa has contributed many plants to California gardens but none more distinguished or more deserving of the name "Plant Aristocrat" than the Silver Tree. The fascinatingly beautiful leaves of this tree appear to be made of shining silver as they reflect the sunlight, in a soft wind. Distantly related to the pines, **Leucadendron argenteum** has somewhat the same upright structure and pyramiding branches. Like many fine things for the garden, Silver Trees are neither easily produced nor sustained. Reproduction is accomplished by seed and the infant plants are exasperatingly difficult to manage for the first year. When set out in the garden they must have excellent drainage and more than average water,

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IT'S TIME FOR...

Fuchsias, Rhododendrons, Crabapples, summer bedding plants, and of course a few special ornamentals for special uses.

We have a lath house through which traffic is seldom channeled. The **Fuchsias** are there and in the summer it's a busy place. The Fuchsias are small now, except those in baskets, but there are other interesting plants in this area—ask a salesman to show you. There are **Astilbe** in pots, a shade perennial of great delicacy, soon to shoot its two foot spires of light pink, rose red or white, with finely cut red-green leaves, \$2; **Cinerarias**, tall and short, at \$1.25 apiece; **Rhododendrons** balled—white (a few only), light pink, rose and red, \$12.50 and \$15; balled **Nandina** (Heavenly Bamboo) of real form and structure, \$10 to \$15; balled **Cedrus atlantica glauca** (Blue Cedar) for bonsai work or other oriental effect, five feet, \$15; balled **Oriental Magnolias** in numerous varieties, all out-of-the-ordinary, \$8.50 to \$15; **Saxifraga sarmentosa** in three inch pots, 35 cents, a fine white-flowering gray-green groundcover for difficult places in deep shade; and **Calceolaria** hybrids in three inch pots, 75 cents, a two foot yellow perennial for light shade.

Another lath house features **Pelargoniums** (Martha Washington Geraniums, pink, white, lavender, maroon, red and salmon shades, 85 cents in four inch pots and a few larger. Plant these in half a day's sun for best results.

Summer bedding materials are in, but as usual the well being of the more heat-loving subjects such as Zinnia, Aster and Impatiens depends entirely upon the weather—if the ground stays cold, and the nights chilly we suggest you delay setting them out. **Petunias** and **Marigolds** are more tolerant. So are **Dianthus**, **Coreopsis**, **Scabiosa**, **Larkspur**, **Ageratum** and **Begonias**, all 40 to 50 cents a dozen. Balled perennials of note to be planted as early as possible include **Canterbury Bells** (pink white, light blue and violet, ultimately to three feet), **Foxgloves** in mixed pastel tones, **Columbine** in separate colors, and **Delphinium** in blues, lavenders, white, all 45 cents a clump.

Indoor plant-of-the-month is **Anthurium veitchii**, a really magnificent easy-to-grow foliage subject with glossy em-

SILVER GROWS ON

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enough to approximately equal the sixty inches of rain they receive in the area in the world where they occur wild, Table Mountains, South Africa.

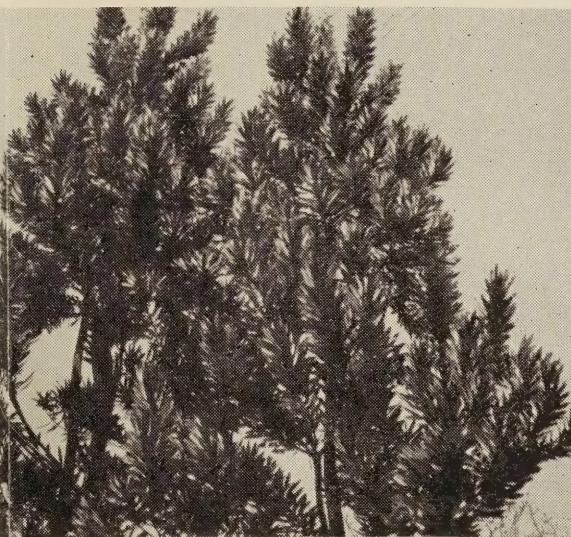
Leucadendron is not the fool-proof plant that can be dropped successfully into any soil in any garden, but there are many local areas such as foothill canyons or ancient river bed spots with porous rocky soil which needs only the addition of peat moss or leaf mold to make ideal conditions for our subject—even if one must at some pains create the drainage and synthesize the soil this is one plant worth all the trouble. You don't have to fret about the climate, rainfall is the only factor lacking to make the Silver Tree feel right at home. While they last, fine trees at \$3, even finer ones, \$10. M. E



erald green leaves in rosette formation, eventually three feet long and ten inches wide. Flowers are inconspicuous greenish white of interesting form. Strong light, fast drainage and good air circulation are the requirements for all good house plants.

Two good but little-used trees we call to your attention are **Dais cotinifolia** and **Tristania conferta** (Brisbane Box). Dais is a small (12 to 15 feet) semi-deciduous tree from South Africa which blooms with great show in late spring-early summer, light orchid pink with the texture of shredded cocoanut, each blossom one to one and a half inches across, round, a curious and fascinating phenomenon sometimes recurring intermittently at unexpected intervals. Leaves are gray-green, glaucous, often with reddish tips. It is a slow-growing little tree which STAYS small, \$5, five gallon. Tristania is a broad-leaved evergreen of little floral value but exceedingly useful wherever is needed a fairly tall (25 feet here), rather narrow-headed and fast-growing tree. In a green lawn between apartment houses, on the street in a narrow parkway, or in a patio where 15 feet spread is adequate, this ornamental with clean bronzy-green leaves (about the size of an

ON TREES



GARDEN OF ALL AHS

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ed by fernbark with careful irregularity.

The raised planting area of flowering fruit trees and undulating grey-green ground cover (which contrasted handsomely with the glossy ground level cover of Ivy) led into the bamboo-roofed lanai where the fernbark partitions were hung with exotic Bromeliads, Orchids and Anthuriums. Strategically spotted clay planters containing a variety of Cordylines of all textures and hues added interest and strength to the design. Large floriferous Camellias highlighted the entrances and such rare exotics as Macaranga grandifolia (Parasol Leaf) and Caryota mitis (Fishtail Palm) stirred interest. Hanging baskets and potted materials would permit seasonal changes for display purposes.

Though there was a great variety of unusual materials unusually used, still unity (and hence serenity) were achieved by repetition of key plants, compelling design which led the eye through and back within again, and placement of the vivid contrasting materials in conjunction with the partitions so as to have a view of one grouping at a time, permitting variety without confusion.

avocado leaf) quickly sheds open shadow and shows off its red-brown limbs and trunk, particularly effective in association with redwood walls. It is not dependably hardy on the floors of our inland valleys, \$4.50, five gallon cans. P. E. C.

Hugh Evan's Guest Book

We have recently had the pleasure of entertaining and introducing to this part of the country an unusually distinguished and prominent horticulturist, Mr. Victor Davies, head of the great nursery firm of Duncan & Davies of New Zealand. This is the first visit Mr. Davies has ever made to the United States, though his plants have been adorning our parks and gardens for many years. Golden Gate Park in San Francisco in particular has received many shipments of plants from his New Zealand nurseries over a long period of time; those noble tree ferns with the black trunk and stems which are so striking in the Park having come from Duncan & Davies together with many other trees and shrubs too numerous to mention.

The pictures which Mr. Davies threw on the screen of the gardens and countryside of his native country made one break the tenth commandment; the Rhododendrons and African Proteas are not too happy with us in the South. Sixty inches of rain and deep volcanic soil together with a very mild climate make ideal growing conditions as is plainly evident in the pictures which were shown.

Particularly striking among many striking things were hedges of Photinia glabra rubra with dazzling red foliage. This plant, though hardy as far as cold is concerned is alas, not a success with us so far in Southern California.

We are sorry to see Mr. Davies leave, particularly as he derived such keen pleasure from his visit here and was delighted with everything he saw—with the possible exception of the congestion on our highways which daunted him to some extent.

In the San Diego Zoo he made the acquaintance of the "Kiwi," a rather weird bird of New Zealand which is supposed to be virtually extinct, a fact of which this bird was apparently unaware.

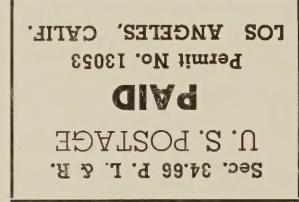
Mr. Davies has received all the honors he can well bear, being an honorary member of every horticultural society in his own country, and receiving from Queen Elizabeth on her recent visit, the order of the British Empire.

Department of Agriculture

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